

Appl. No 10/710,010
Amdt. Dated November 8, 2005
Reply to office action of October 31, 2005

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

NOV 08 2005

Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A candlewick-fixing device for use with a burning candlewick comprising:
 - a. a handle with a first end and a second end;
 - b. a candlewick hook with a straight portion end and a bent portion end, the straight portion end attached to the handle second end, the hook ~~circular~~ bent portion end positioned adjoining ~~[[the]]~~ a bend forming a circular opening, the handle first end sufficient distance from the second end such that the user may position the hook around a candlewick without encountering the heat from the candle;
 - c. the candlewick hook circular opening arranged with an inside diameter of one-fourth inch or greater such that the hook may be positioned around a candlewick wherein horizontal motion in any direction engages the candlewick and may be used to straighten the candlewick; and
 - d. the handle first end connected to a flame snuffer with an opening end and an attachment end, the attachment end attached to the handle first end.
2. (previously presented) The candlewick-fixing device of claim 1 further comprising the handle is fabricated from a material chosen from the group consisting of metal, ceramic, plastic, and wood.
3. (previously presented) The candlewick-fixing device of claim 1 further comprising the handle contains a bend arranged such that the bend convex side may rest on a support surface such that any debris on the candlewick hook is elevated above the support surface.
4. (previously presented) The candlewick-fixing device of claim 1 further comprising a plate with an upper surface and a lower surface and configured such that the snuffer opening end may rest on the upper surface with the lower surface in contact with a support surface such that combustion products on the snuffer are deposited on the plate upper surface.
5. (previously presented) The candlewick-fixing device of claim 3 further comprising a plate with an upper surface and a lower surface and configured such that the snuffer opening end may rest on the upper surface with the lower surface in contact with a

Appl. No 10/710,010
Amdt. Dated November 8, 2005
Reply to office action of October 31, 2005

support surface such that combustion products on the snuffer are deposited on the plate upper surface.

6. (previously presented) The candlewick-fixing device of claim 5 further comprising the flame snuffer is rotatably mounted to the handle first end.
7. (previously presented) The candlewick-fixing device of claim 6 further comprising the handle is fabricated from a material chosen from the group consisting of metal, ceramic, plastic, and wood.
8. (previously presented) A combination candlewick straightening device and flame snuffer comprising:
 - a. means for repositioning a candlewick;
 - b. means for extinguishing a candle flame; and
 - c. means for supporting the device and snuffer such that the candlewick repositioning means and the candle flame extinguishing means are elevated above the support surface.
9. (currently amended) A method of repositioning a burning candlewick comprising:
 - a. grasping a candlewick fixing device by the handle;
 - b. locating the candlewick-fixing device in proximity above the burning candlewick;
 - c. lowering the candlewick fixing device to surround the burning candlewick;
 - d. moving the candlewick fixing device ~~in a desired horizontal direction~~ horizontally forward, backward, side-to-side, or at an angle in between wherein the candlewick is repositioned in the desired direction by contact with the candlewick fixing device;
 - e. repeating step d as necessary;
 - f. removing the candlewick fixing device from contact with the candlewick; and
 - g. raising the candlewick fixing device above the candlewick. ~~[[; and]]~~
 - ~~h. placing the candlewick fixing device on a surface.~~